

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/612,040

Examiner

Tianjie Chen

Applicant(s)

CHOI ET AL.

Art Unit

2627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed on 04/05/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,4,5,8,9 and 14-16.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


TIANJIE CHEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

- With regard to independent claims 1 and 5, as the closest reference of record, the combination of Morinaga (JP 8-203259A), Park (US 6,859,933), and Hirasaka et al (US 6,690,540) discloses a disk tray for a disk drive that slides in and out of the disk drive, the disk tray comprising two or more resonators mounted on a lower surface of the disk tray to selectively reduce noise of at least two predetermined frequency bands that correspond to dominant noise frequency bands above 200 Hz, wherein each of the two or more resonators comprises: a through hole penetrating the disk tray and operating as an entrance and a bottle neck of each resonator; and a resonance container surrounding the through hole and having a predetermined volume, the predetermined frequency band being determined according to an area of a profile of the through hole, a length of the bottle neck of the through hole, and a volume of the resonance container; wherein the resonator further comprises an absorbing member filling the resonance container; **but fails to show** that the absorbing member is to selectively reduce noise of one of the at least two predetermined frequency bands and wherein the absorbing member is a porous material.
- With regard to independent claim 14, as the closest reference on record, the combination of Morinaga (JP 8-203259A) and Park et al (EP 1 207 532 A2) shows a resonator having a resonance container for a disk tray, which is being mounted on the disk tray to selectively reduce noise of a

predetermined frequency band, the predetermined frequency band being determined according to an area of a profile of the through hole, a length of the bottle neck of the through hole, and the volume of the resonance container, an absorbing member filling the resonance container to selectively reduce noise of a frequency band; the absorbing member filling the resonance container to selectively reduce noise of a frequency band higher than the predetermined frequency band; **but fails to show** the absorbing member filling the resonance container is a porous member.

- With regard to independent claim 16, as the closest reference of record, the combination of Morinaga (JP 8-203259A), Park (US 6,859,933), and Hirasaka et al (US 6,690,540) discloses a disk drive that slides in and out of the disk drive, the disk tray comprising two or more resonators mounted on a lower surface of the disk tray to selectively reduce at least two peak sound pressure levels that are above 200 Hz, wherein the peak sound pressure levels correspond to dominant noise frequency bands, wherein at least one resonator is a Helmholtz resonator comprising an absorbing member filling a resonance container surrounding a through hole and having a predetermined volume, the resonator being mounted on the disk tray to selectively reduce noise of a predetermined frequency band, the predetermined frequency band being determined according to an area of a profile of the through hole, a length of the bottle neck of the through hole, and the volume of the resonance container, wherein air in the bottle neck begins to resonate to cause interference that causes frequency cancellation for a frequency

larger than the predetermined frequency band; **but fails to show** that the absorbing member is a porous material,.

- Applicant asserts that by filling the resonance container with a porous member the high frequency noise band and the overall noise level can be reduced (Specification, [0041]).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tianjie Chen whose telephone number is 571-272-7570. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-4:30, Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hoa Nguyen can be reached on 571-272-7579. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


TIANJIE CHEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER